

basketball team for their victory in the 2015 Texas Class 5A State Basketball Championship. We are proud of your accomplishment, and we share in the pride and excitement felt by the city of Lancaster, Texas, the Superintendent of Lancaster I.S.D., Mr. Michael McFarland, the Principal of Lancaster High School, Mr. Michael Showell and the entire school.

#### HONORING DEVIN MCCOMBS

#### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 18, 2015*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Devin McCombs. Devin is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 395, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Devin has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Devin has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Devin has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Devin McCombs for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

#### BIANCA MARTINEZ

#### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 18, 2015*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Bianca Martinez for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Bianca Martinez is a 12th grader at Standley Lake High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Bianca Martinez is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Bianca Martinez for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

#### HONORING LT. COLONEL GREG GADSON

#### HON. BILL FLORES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 18, 2015*

Mr. FLORES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of America's finest, Lt. Colonel

Greg Gadson who is in command of Ft. Belvoir in Virginia, a graduate of West Point in 1989. Greg was also a star linebacker on the United States Army football team. Greg, a twenty-year veteran, has received three bronze stars and a purple heart. While serving in Operation Iraq Freedom, he was almost killed as the commander of a surge unit by an IED explosion, losing both of his legs. He has since done nothing but climbed mountain after mountain. He is also well-known as an inspirational public speaker, and many give him credit for helping inspire the New York Giants to their Super Bowl XLVI season. He has also appeared in the movie "Battleship" and truly is an American hero and a man for all seasons. I submit this poem, penned in his honor by Albert Carey Caswell.

#### HOLD THAT LINE

Hold  
That  
Line  
All in our lifetimes  
Past what new goal lines will we so drive?  
When, it all so seems our backs are up  
against the wall to find  
All in these the moments of our lives  
Coming off that line  
All in hearts now carried deep  
What promises to ourselves will we so keep?  
To find the faith and courage to compete  
To strive  
Will we get up and fight?  
When it all so lies on the line  
And hold  
That  
Line  
Or will we give in,  
In these our darkest of all nights as they  
begin?  
Or will we go deep?  
All in our hearts of honor so to seek  
Whether, on football fields of green  
Or out upon most heroic battlefields of honor  
seen  
You Lt. Colonel Gadson,  
Have always gleamed  
Will our hearts choose to stand and fight,  
To compete?  
All in the seeds we've sown so deep  
All in our hearts to reap  
Emanating from somewhere inside,  
So down so very deep  
Is the place Lt. Colonel,  
Where all of your promises you would so  
keep  
All in your strength in honor which speaks  
To be the best as you would seek  
All in your actions,  
And deeds  
Firing out across that line to death to beat  
Tackling all of those obstacles in your way  
to compete  
As so gallantly you sow heroism seeds  
As why in the game of life you shine so bril-  
liantly  
As it's your faith Greg you were so to keep  
Running from end to end,  
As up ahead you would lead  
To take control and command  
To hold  
That  
Line  
As there you'd stand  
When this battle before you so lie  
As across that goal line of life for victory  
you'd strive  
All because of men like you Colonel who so  
courageously compete  
We all may live in peace  
Because, in the game of life  
It's all about digging in,

And digging in deep  
Through thick and thin,  
How far we are all willing to go for victory  
to reach

To  
Hold  
That  
Line  
To walk through that valley of death,  
With clenched fists to one day Heaven reach  
For these are the things in life which speak  
And who have we saved?  
And who have we blessed?  
And what have we taught to pass that test?  
By all our actions, whom have we reached  
By our examples to beseech  
Will we stand up and go deep?  
As have you Colonel,  
As to such new heights you'd so reach  
In this new battle you began,  
And you so chose to fight and stand  
While, all in the midst of hell  
As your most courageous heart began to  
swell  
And you had to start all over again  
Without your once strong legs upon which  
you so ran  
As you looked down as the red blood ran  
As in that moment your new battle so began  
Being from The Point,  
Your heart gave you a command  
To hold  
That  
Line  
As once again it was first and goal  
With your back to the wall  
As you had to plug up all those holes,  
And somehow find the strength to stand  
To tackle all that misery at hand  
And somehow hold  
That  
Line  
As you had done before,  
Time and time again  
As somehow you got up and stood,  
And started your whole life over as you  
would  
Listening to your heart,  
As you brought tears to all our eyes  
Thanking your Father and your brothers for  
being alive  
As a winner in that game of life you crossed  
that recovery goal line  
As Greg you crushed it  
As death you sacked it  
Firing out to victory to find  
And Colonel,  
If I ever have a son  
I pray to God,  
He could lead a life like yours as won  
Who when it was all on the line,  
Did not thing think twice  
To win that day, that fight  
As a winner before us now stands here this  
night  
Because it's on our legs we stand  
But it's with our hearts we run to daylight  
And we  
Hold  
That  
Line  
For Greg you are Army strong  
And why such men as you and MacArthur to  
The Point so belong  
Whose hearts of honor in history will live on  
Hoo ah

Mr. Speaker, before I close, I ask everyone to continue to pray for our country and for our military men and women that protect it.

God bless the United States of America.